

Relay for Life a Great Success

The sixth annual Cancer Council Queensland's Relay for Life was a great success with 43 teams drawn from the local region raising a record \$125,642 for cancer research.

During the past four months, the NRG team captained by Kev Ryan have been busy raising funds through lunch time barbecues and chocolate drives. The team raised a whopping \$5,675 with NRG contributing a further \$1,325 in registration and company sponsorship.

Flying the flag for the NRG team were Kevin, Mary and Dominique Ryan, Kris, Brian and Jack Petersen, David and Rachel Hoffmann, Phil and Leanne Hayne, Jay Wilson, Kylie Parker, Cherie Cavanagh, Russ Curtis and Mick Hills. Other employees including Shoey, Cheryl Jackson, Bill and Helen Whitmore and Nev and Michelle Beckman were members of other teams while Michael Holmes once again worked tirelessly for months as a committee member. Mick Hills (whose wife Leonie is Chairperson) and Trevor Williams assisted the committee to ensure the function ran smoothly.

Around 550 people took part in the relay which saw team members taking turns to walk their baton around the Chanel College oval for 18 hours during the overnight event.

Earlier on in the night a candle ceremony was held to honour lost ones or to symbolise loved ones who have survived or are currently battling the disease.

Special thanks must go the Petersens for the terrific job they did in decorating the NRG tent with

a Christmas theme this year. Also thanks must go to the team members, Archie's sausage sizzle team, Kris & Jay's chocolate drive team, Steve and Keith for their assistance with the tent, the donation collectors and of course all who made very generous donations and bought the sausages and chocolates.

Relay for Life Chairperson, Leonie Hills said despite having fewer teams this year the relay was the most successful fundraiser to date. NRG, along with a handful of other teams, was given a special mention at the closing ceremony for entering a team each year since the relay began.



NRG employees and their families were keen participants at this year's Relay for Life.

Employees Celebrate Safety Milestone



NRG employees last month got to enjoy a sumptuous lunch of cold meats, prawns, salads, fresh fruit, and vegetarian quiche in recognition of having achieved 90 days free of recordable injury on site.

General Manager Gladstone Operations, Glenn 'Shoey' Schumacher thanked all employees for achieving the milestone but urged them to continue to make GPS a safe place to work.

"Ninety days free of recordable injury is an important achievement and one which we need to acknowledge."

"The challenge for all of us now is to make this a permanent state of affairs. I am committed to working with all employees in achieving our goal of an injury free site," Shoey said.

Employees celebrate achieving a new safety milestone.

From Shoey's Desk

Dear Folks

We are now more than half way through 2009 and it is perhaps appropriate to take a moment and reflect upon the year so far. We all know this has been an extraordinary year in terms of the upheaval caused by the Global Financial Crisis and all that has gone along with it. We have seen all the toing and froing regarding the Federal Government's Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme. But for us here at Gladstone Power Station the challenge has been clearly to remain focused on turning this station around and getting it back to where it needs to be so that we can meet the challenges that face us. Yes, I know that I might be becoming a bit of a "broken record" on this subject but our task is not done yet. We have a way to go.

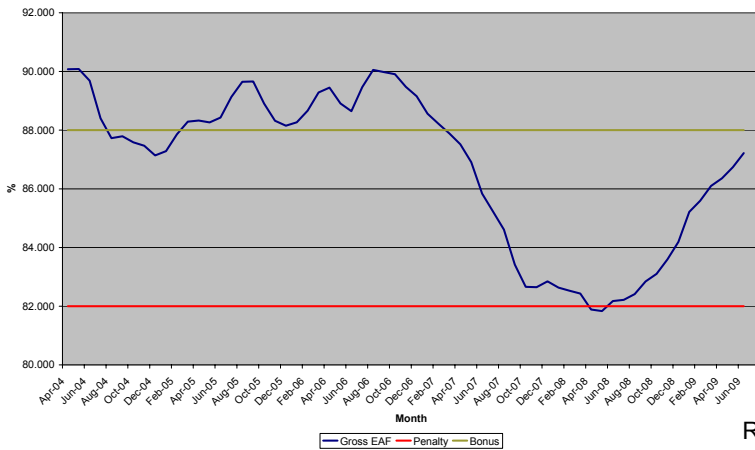
That being said, we have come a long way and recognising what we have achieved is very important indeed. Yes, you are the people who have turned this station around. To see where we have come over the past two years we need only look at our Availability Graph.

Key Result Area: HEALTH & SAFETY

| | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Reportable Injuries (MTC + LTI) | ● |
| 2 | LTIFR | ● |
| 3 | LTISR | ● |
| 4 | AIFR | ● |
| 5 | Reportable Occupational Diseases | ● |
| 6 | Safety Observations (#) | ● |

You might recall having seen an earlier version of this graph in a previous Gladrag article. But, just to remind us all of what it says the blue line on the graph represents a 24 month rolling average of our Equivalent Availability Factor (EAF), which is just a fancy way of saying the average availability over the past two years. You can see that we had two very tough months in April and May 2008 when the EAF fell below the minimum level of 82%. The minimum level of 82% represents a level at which GPS is open to significant financial losses for low Availability. We are now heading towards 88% level. This is a great achievement and the result of a lot of hard work. Thank you.

GPS EQUIVALENT AVAILABILITY FACTOR



The improvement of GPS has not been in one area alone. It has not been "Availability at all cost". No, rather we are seeing improvements right across the board. If we take safety for example, we are seeing good results as can be seen from our "stop light" report that we send to the Owners each month. This table below is taken from the July Report. Of course we can always do better when it comes to safety but we are taking that journey with the ZIP Program that is rolling out through the station. We need to keep working at safety but this is a good start.

We all know we have a lot yet to do and that the challenges are coming our way but, the performance to date shows we are serious about meeting those challenges.

Safety - A Way Of Life

Regards

SHOEY
Glenn Schumacher
GENERAL MANAGER

NRG Hosts Visit from Onsite Health Solutions

NRG recently hosted a visit from an international company called Onsite Health Solutions (OHS). The company provides tailored health promotion and injury prevention programs in the workplace. Health and wellness professionals from QAL, BSL and Rio Tinto Yarwun, GPC, Stanwell and Anglo Coal attended the two hour session which focused on the Safe Spine Program.

In her presentation, OHS Managing Director Fleeta Solomon pointed out that in the mining and construction industries, musculoskeletal sprains and strains account for approximately 50% of all Lost Time injuries (LTI's) and a considerably greater amount of Total Recordable Injuries (TRI's). Research has shown that up to 50% of all LTI's can be prevented through regular stretching and strengthening exercises.

Fleeta said the OHS Safe Spine Program was about identifying muscular imbalances specific to individuals and implementing personal exercise programs. NRG is currently evaluating the program to determine whether it will be implemented on site in the near future.



Onsite Health Solutions Managing Director, Fleeta Solomon discusses aspects of the Safe Spine program with Paul Vanderlist, Sarah Maynard and QAL's Rebecca Devine.

ZIP Gets the Thumbs up from Participants

The roll out of the Zero Incident Process (ZIP) program is progressing well with nearly 120 employees participating in the program as at the end of August.

Brisbane based organisation, Sentis, have been conducting the two day seminars which are aimed at enhancing safety and leadership performance on site.

Manager Health, Safety, Environment and Community, George Bennetts said the program was designed to empower people to take control of their personal safety and to help NRG reach our goal of a zero injury workplace.

“We have received a lot of positive feedback from employees who have appreciated the opportunity to learn new knowledge and skills that can apply not only to work but to all areas of their life,” George said.

Financial Accountant, Rebecca Sparrow believes ZIP helped her focus on what was important in her life and “why I want to go home from work in the same condition as I arrived.”

“It demonstrated to me that the more I put into everything, the more I get out of it. It helped me focus on the fact that I am responsible and in control of my life – nobody else,” Rebecca said.

Production Administration Assistant, Kris Petersen said she learnt that before starting any job it was important to focus on what’s important now.

“ZIP allows you to take control of your known safety. Reaching your goals depends on the positive choices you make in life and that outcomes can be changed by simply thinking differently,” Kris said.

Station Electrical Electrician, Col Johnston echoed Kris’s comments adding that the ZIP training could not only be applied at work but to everyday life.

“It is particularly relevant when discussing road safety especially when you consider the amount of time many of us spend on the roads,” Col said.



ZIP facilitator Garrick Chatterjee discusses aspects of the program with Kris Petersen and Col Johnston.

Auxiliaries Workgroup Boosts Charity Funds Coffers

The members of the Auxiliaries workgroup have provided a timely boost to the coffers of the Gladstone Community Charities by donating \$1,000 to the fund last month.

Auxiliaries Plant Services Employee, John Barnes said the group had decided to donate \$500 of their safety bonus from achieving one year free of recordable injury. A further \$500 was donated from the profits of soft drink and confectionery sales in the workgroup lunch room.

“We had previously supported other causes and the blokes thought it would be good to assist the Charities Fund in their work,” John said.

Meanwhile the Gladstone Community Charities Fund has continued to support local charities in our region by donating over \$3,300 during the past month. Donations were made to the following groups:

- Gladstone and District Prostate Cancer Support Group – \$724 for a prostate awareness banner and computer repairs.
- Calliope Scout Group - \$600 for the purchase of three new gazebos to provide outdoor protection for the children.
- Gladstone Health Services, Gladstone Hospital - \$2,000 for the purchase of a small vaccine fridge to provide safe storage for the hospitals Oncology Unit’s chemotherapy drugs.

Since its formation in August 1982 the Charities Fund has donated \$360,000 to approximately 50 charities in the Gladstone region. NRG is a major supporter of the fund contributing \$6,500 to the fund each year.

Employees who would like to contribute to the fund or increase their contribution can contact Russell Watson in the Accounting Services section.



Members of the Auxiliaries workgroup are always keen to help the less fortunate in our community.



Geoff Lester from the Gladstone and District Prostate Group and Charities Fund President, Archie Lowe check out the new banner recently paid for by the charities fund.

Hazard Reduction Project Update

A number of hazard reduction projects have been completed over the past couple of months.

Superintendent Chemical Processes, Kelvin Newman said a safety screen had been erected at 1-4 Demin Plant due to the proximity of the roadway and potential contact with passing personnel or vehicles. Concentrated corrosive chemicals are unloaded at 1-4 and 5-6 demineralising plants for use in demin water production.

“Production chemical plant technicians had recognised the possibility for concentrated chemicals to spray from truck discharge lines during unloading. While temporary barricades have been erected in the past, a permanent screen was the preferred option rather than extending safety exclusion barriers which would have prevented vehicle access,” Kelvin said.

Mechanical Engineering Superintendent, Rob Wemyss and his team came with



Bob Dennien and Rob Wemyss check out the new safety screen erected near the 1-4 Demin Plant.

the design for an acrylic fence to provide a permanent barrier which has now been installed and proven to be a great success.

Another hazard reduction project currently underway involves the standardisation of the drain plugs on the low point drains on Units 4 and 5.



Greg Nugent and Michael Jess inspect the newly modified drain plugs in the feed heating area.

The drains are the lowest point in the feed heating and condensing area on each unit.

During a unit outage the drain valves need to be opened and the drain plugs removed to allow all condensate to be drained out.

Units Mechanical Superintendent, Guy Ayscough said that over the years the drain plugs on each unit had been changed or modified.

“Having so many different plugs means a lot of additional tools are required to remove all drain plugs. Unit Controller Greg Nugent suggested standardising the plugs so we have now put in place a program to do this on each of the units. Units 4 and 5 have been completed with the other units to be modified during future outages,” Guy said.



John Hall and Brad Zillman fabricated the new handrails around the 1-4 detention ponds.

Meanwhile in another maintenance project new handrails have been installed around the outlet weir gate valves at 1-4 detention ponds. Auxiliaries pressure welder John Hall said the previous rails had become unsafe due to corrosion.

“Scientists carry out routine water sampling at the outlet so we needed to make sure the new rails met the current safety standard,” John said.

John and second year boilermaking apprentice Brad Zillman installed the new rails with assistance from Peter Schultz and Gary Underdown.

Shannon Enjoys Work Experience

Fourth Year CQU engineering student Shannon Reynolds recently joined GPS for a six month training program.

Shannon is employed under the Engineering Co-op Scheme that provides for two six month periods of paid work experience.

He is currently working on a project to improve the efficiency and life expectancy of pulverisers. The project will form the basis of Shannon’s final year thesis in engineering.

Prior to joining GPS Shannon had completed his first six month placement at Blackwater mine where he was involved in managing a project on truck weigh stations. He has also worked as

a trades assistant on the Gladstone Port Corporation expansion and at Gladstone Pressure Welders.

In the future Shannon would like to get a permanent job working on site in a large industry. For the moment he is keen to learn as much as he can during his time at the station.

“NRG has a good reputation with the Co-op Scheme and there are a number of engineers such as Alfie Little and Clinton Windsor who have been through the program and are only too willing to lend their support,” Shannon said.

Many long term employees will remember Shannon’s dad “Barcoo” Reynolds who worked as a rigger scaffolder at GPS for over 20 years.



Shannon would like to get a permanent job in large industry after completing his co-op program.

Careers Expo a Great Success

The inaugural combined Schools and Industry Network and Rotary Careers Expo was a great success with more than 1000 high school students from throughout the region attending the two day event.

Specialist Employee Relations, Tari Kay said the Expo was a great way to engage students and raise awareness about career opportunities available at Gladstone Power Station.

"While the focus was on apprenticeships and traineeships we wanted to communicate that we also offer engineering scholarships and a variety of non-trade and professional job opportunities. We received positive feedback from the students as well as parents who attended," Tari said.

During the Expo the students had the opportunity to take part in the Try-A-Trade competition. Activities included measurement of accuracy using callipers and constructing a Series Circuit and a Parallel Circuit.

Students who took part in the activities had the opportunity to win one of six prizes including gift vouchers and movie packages drawn throughout the day.

As well as NRG more than 40 other exhibitors from major industry, tertiary institutions and apprenticeship centres set up displays in the Gladstone State High School Auditorium.

Thanks to Kathryn Giles, Natalie Hurst, John Marxsen, Darryl Phillips, Rohan Phelps and Stuart Norris for helping out on the day.



Natalie Hurst, Tari Kay, John Marxsen, Rohan Phelps and Stuart Norris were happy to take part in this year's Careers and Tertiary Expo.

Cameron Purdon Joins 25 Year Club



Cameron was pleased to accept his 25 year gift from Manager Production, Joel Otley.

and coal plant before starting as an operator in July 1983.

I initially commenced on D shift while also doing four month stints per year on relief shift. After the 1985 strike I worked on B shift for a while and then spent nine months on the recommissioning roster. When the 12 hr roster came into effect in 1997 I moved to A shift.

In July 2001 I transferred to Millmerran Power Station and did a brief stint at Callide before slipping back here in October 2003 as a day shift operator. I also completed an 11 week stint at Port Augusta before joining C shift (2004) and finally E shift in 2006.

What brought you back to Gladstone after your stint at Millmeran and Callide C Power Stations?

While I loved the work at Millmerran, it was a 160 km round trip to Toowoomba where all the sons sport was, up to four times per week. Also job options were very limited so we decided it was in the best interests of our son's futures to return to Gladstone where we had more lifestyle options. Since then my two sons have gained apprenticeships in plumbing and electrical instrumentation.

What are the highlights of your career at GPS?

- My first callout here was an 11 hour effort in the bunkers working on trippers, with torn cables.

- Passing APA school. (Ian Talty reckons he lowered the grade for me and Pete Rieck).
- A trip to Dampier and Mount Tom Price in Western Australia as a union delegate after the sale of station in 1995.
- Joining the recommissioning crew in 1995 and gaining a PPC's position in 2007.

Have you worked on any projects or taken on additional roles while at GPS?

I was in the fire team while working as an electrician and I have been the shift safety representative for a number of years. I was also the Combined Operators Union representative for five years.

What do you enjoy about working at GPS and living in Gladstone?

I like the current shift roster. The job is challenging and I feel comfortable within GPS mainly due to its very stable, friendly and reliable work force. It is not far to get anywhere from Gladstone and it has a good climate and plenty to keep an active mind and body busy.

What are your interests and hobbies?

I enjoy camping and being on the local committee for cricket. I still umpire and am sitting for my level 2 in August. In the past I've enjoyed squash and doing home improvements.

Where were you born and what jobs did you have prior to joining the electricity industry on 20 April 1982?

I was "hatched" in Bundaberg and lived on a cane farm at a place called Bucca until 1968 when the family moved to Nambour. I started working at 11, driving tractors and chipping cane and hooning on the inter row sprayer. I began my official working career in 1978 as an electrical apprentice at the Moreton Sugar Mill which has since been demolished.

Tell me about your roles in the electricity industry and at GPS. Who were your supervisors at the time? Have you always worked on the same shift?

I started at GPS in April 1982 working under supervisor Claude Powe. Jeff Powe and John Newby were the foreman at the time. I did my time in the bottom workshop

Getting Personal with Maintenance Specialist Fuel Process Tony McCracken

In the short time you have worked at the station what's been your impression of the plant and people so far?

The plant is well maintained for its age and quite tidy. The people here are friendly and are never too busy to say hello, even to strangers.

What have you enjoyed about your new role?

I found it great to be back in a maintenance role again (after a few years in a production role) and learning about a new plant and its equipment.

Tell us about your previous roles and experience.

I originally completed my electrical apprenticeship with BHP in Tasmania many years ago and came to Gladstone in the early 80's to work as an electrician at the smelter. I worked in various departments and on shift for a few years, which eventually led to an electrical technical role. After three years I moved into maintenance supervision where I was responsible for managing a crew of 17 mechanical and electrical tradespeople plus apprentices. I was eventually asked to transfer to Operations as Refractory Specialist to look after the Refractory Team in the Carbon Bake section of the Smelter. During my five years in that role I also spent a year relieving as the Carbon Bake Superintendent.

What things attracted you to NRG and Gladstone Power Station?

I had been working in an operational role

for almost five years and was keen to move back into maintenance. Also after many years working at the smelter in quite a few differing roles, I felt it was time to move on and take up new challenges.

Tell us about some of your interests and hobbies.

My partner Alison and I recently bought a house at Tannum Sands which needs a lot of renovation, so we spend a lot of our spare time fixing the place up. I am also quite good at armchair sports in front of the TV.

What do you like about living in Gladstone?

We don't - we live at Tannum, "Only joking" but seriously the climate, area and community is great and we have lived in the Gladstone district now for almost 26 years and have no plans to leave.

Where were you born and where did you do your early education?

I was born in England and my parents moved to Tasmania when I was six years old and yes, I have been called a "Two Headed POM" many times. My early education was completed in Georgetown, Tasmania where I grew up.

Tell us a little bit about your family.

I live with my partner Alison and a black and white Moggie. The kids think that they have all grown up and left home. The last one moved out last year but still lives locally. Unfortunately, they are still to sever financial links to us.

My worst habit is.....

Continuing to forget to put my football tips in.

At home I like to cook....

When it's my turn to cook we always have "Red Rooster."

The best holiday I've ever been on was to....

Singapore, on a three week cruise from Sydney. A highlight was sailing past the Krakatoa volcano while it was erupting.

You wouldn't know it but I'm no good at

Exercising when on holidays.

The hardest thing I've ever done was....

Having to eat donkey pie and cow intestines for dinner when on a business trip to Central China a couple of years ago. I didn't eat much for two weeks after that meal.



Farewell Jim Hackett

More time for fishing, travelling, bushwalking and playing golf are just some of the things high on the agenda for former Unit Controller Jim Hackett who retired on 31 July.

"I bought a caravan two years ago which hasn't seen too many trips so the plan is to do a lot more travelling in the van and eventually go around Australia," Jim said.

Jim commenced his career in the electricity industry in 1961 as an electrical apprentice at Townsville Power Station. After completing his apprenticeship Jim spent the next 15 years working for a variety of contractors mainly based in the Townsville area.

Looking for a new direction Jim moved to Gladstone in 1976 joining Siemens on GPS construction for a period of five years.

When the work started to run out Jim joined QEGB as an APA on B shift in the production crew. After two years he transferred to the D Shift crew which he stayed on until 1998 when he became a day operator.

In recent years Jim has taken on the position of Production Overhaul Co-ordinator, a role he has enjoyed immensely.

"I enjoy the opportunity to work with the maintenance crews as well as the operators and not having to do the nightshifts anymore," Jim said.

For the moment Jim is happy to retire in Gladstone and he has no plans move away from the town which has been home for 33 years.

"I only intended to stay the five years until the kids had left school but with the good climate and good fishing it has proved to be a great place to live," Jim said.



Jim was happy to receive his retirement mug from NRG.

Coal Receiving Switchboard Replacement

Work is underway on the installation of a new 415 volt coal receiving switchboard.

In early 2007 the production department safety meeting raised a safety concern with the switchboard which had become unreliable to operate. When switching it was a regular occurrence for an interlock or air circuit breaker failing to operate as designed.

Unit Controller, Greg Nugent believed it was not safe to operate the incoming and bus tie 415V circuit and brought the concern to the site workplace health and safety meeting. It was decided the technical services department should investigate replacement of the switchboard to eliminate the concerns identified.

As the switch board was about to require several changes to facilitate new drives that were part of the coal unloading upgrade project, it was recommended that it be replaced.

Manager Major Projects, Stephen Lewis said the costs of the modifications for the coal unloading upgrade project and the replacement of the incoming circuit breakers were equivalent to replacing the

whole switchboard with a modern switchboard.

“The switchboard was installed when the station was first constructed in 1974 and modifying the switchboard for the coal unloading upgrade project would have been nearly impossible,” he said.

Half of the new switchboard is currently being installed by Downer Engineering in parallel with the outage on B route for the coal unloading upgrade project. The second half of the switchboard will be installed in the first half of 2010 when the second route is upgraded.

Stephen said the new switchboard would eliminate any safety concerns and the arc flash issues that were present in all older designed switchboards at GPS.



Manager Major Projects, Stephen Lewis inspects the new coal plant switchboard which has replaced the old one at top left.



Learning about Obstructive Sleep Apnoea

NRG employees had the opportunity to learn more about Obstructive Sleep Apnoea (OSA) following a visit from Gladstone Surgical and Equipment representatives Gayle Scanlan and Linda Mills. The visit was an initiative of the Wellness Committee.

Gayle pointed out that symptoms of OSA could include snoring and unusual breathing, daytime sleepiness, fatigue, poor concentration, irritability and depression.

OSA occurs when the walls of the throat come together during sleep, blocking off the upper airway at the level of the tongue. Breathing stops for a period of time (generally between a few seconds and up to one minute) until the brain registers the lack of breathing or a drop in oxygen levels and sends a small wake-up call.

The sleeper rouses slightly, opens the upper airway, typically snorts and gasps, then drifts back to sleep almost immediately. In most cases the person suffering from OSA doesn't even realise they are waking up.

People with OSA have an increased risk of motor vehicle accidents and hypertension as well as a possible increased risk of heart attack, stroke or workplace accident.

Some options for managing OSA include losing weight, stopping smoking, Continuous Positive Airway pressure (CPAP) therapy and dental devices.



Gladstone Surgical and Equipment representatives Gayle Scanlan and Linda Mills were happy to provide information on Obstructive Sleep Apnoea to Michael Holmes and Steve Thefs.

To gain an assessment, employees should consult their doctor.

The sessions were well received by employees who appreciated the opportunity to improve their awareness of the issue.

ride to work day 2009

Leaders Driving Change

GPS BIKE-N-BREKKY DAY

Regular Riders Getting Involved

Register

REGISTER ON LINE TODAY:
www.ridetowork.com.au
 QUOTE: 463092
 (Team - Gladstone Power Station)

THURSDAY
 8 OCTOBER
 2009

Mmmm, Free Brekky too!

New Riders Giving it a go

PHONE DOUGGIE (122), DAVE (510) OR JAY (729) for more information....

Where are they now? – Ed Francis

What period did you work at the station?

I first worked on the site during the construction stage with ANI Sergeants in 1972 –73. We were constructing the turbine house, which was reputed at that time, to be the largest portal frame building in the Southern Hemisphere. I recommenced work at the station again when it became QEGB in 1979. With all the uncertainty in the late eighties (during the Joh era) I took a redundancy package in 1988. With my then young family I completed a trip around Australia which I had commenced alone in 1971 when I first came to Gladstone.

What was your role at the station and who were some of the other people you enjoyed working with at the time?

Initially I worked in the welding bay but completed maintenance and repair work to plant over the whole site. Keith Shambrook was head of Maintenance and the other boilermakers were Wally Giddy and Maurie Urquhart, while Peter Bambrick was an apprentice. John Marxsen and Rick Thomason worked in the fitting bay next door. After I completed my pressure welding tickets I worked in the boilers. In 1983 I moved to the mills workshop and also spent time in the coal plant. The dirt there was all the same color (black) but I knew that after that I would be returning to the cleaner environment of the main workshop.

What are your fondest memories of working at the station?

Because of the interaction and support from all the staff the power station was probably the best place that I ever worked. Mostly we all supported each other and made the best of our lot while at work. During the day there were many lighthearted moments between individuals. Of necessity we had to be resourceful in order to get jobs completed.

What do you miss about living in Gladstone?

When you have spent most of the past thirty-five years in the same town where you have married and raised a family, you leave behind your shared life experiences with friends and neighbours. While I have extended family in Maryborough I have returned to a different lifestyle and very few remaining friends. Over the years I became fond of the beach at Tannum Sands and valued the simple, uncrowded lifestyle of the Gladstone region. In my opinion Gladstone has the best climate in Australia with the warm winters and relatively cool summers hard to find elsewhere.

What have you done since leaving Gladstone?

After our trip around Australia we returned to Gladstone and while the children completed their high-school education I worked on most of the construction sites in the Gladstone area. In order to make life easier, in 1997 I became a fulltime student at Central Queensland University. I completed a Bachelor of Education degree, which I managed to complete in three and a half years. I then worked as a supply teacher in Gladstone and completed a three-month contract at the Gladstone TAFE College.

In 2006 I took up employment with a group training organisation in Longreach for a year before returning to Maryborough at the Wide Bay TAFE College as a workplace trainer in 2007. With rent so expensive here we decided to sell our Gladstone house and build a home in Maryborough. Unfortunately in August 2008 I found that I had a serious heart problem which required major surgery in Brisbane. Prior to that I had no history of heart problems. Currently, I am still in the recovery stage and the prospect of future work is uncertain. With retirement looming the best recovery I can make from

my surgery is the most important thing for me.

What do you enjoy about living in Maryborough?

After selling our Gladstone house we built a new retirement house in Maryborough, so there will be no more painting a high house for me. Maryborough is central to all of the seaside places that I enjoyed before going to Gladstone - Bundaberg to the north, Hervey Bay and Rainbow Beach to the east and the Sunshine Coast in the south. It is close enough to Brisbane to drive down and back on the same day. While the inner city of Maryborough has changed considerably, tourism has created other developments in the city that we are enjoying.

Do you still keep up with any GPS employees?

In 2003 I arranged for a group of TAFE students to visit the power station. It was the first time that I had returned since 1988. I was surprised to find so many familiar faces still there. From time to time I have unexpectedly met others who still work at the station. I find these updates interesting as it is now almost forty years since I first arrived in Gladstone. I remember well when the earth works was being completed on site and riding my motorbike through mud to get to work.

Tell us a little bit about your family?

While over a period some things change other things remain the same. I am still married to Barbara and own the Holden and caravan that I towed around Australia. In 2000 my daughter Anita married Peter Melville. Peter had completed his electrical apprenticeship at the power station during the 90's. They now live in Rockhampton. My son Ivan, still lives with us in the new house in Maryborough.

If you know of a former employee who may be interested in participating please forward their contact details to Gary Macnamara ext 504.

Service Register – August / September 2009

The NRG Service Register recognises employees who have completed 10 years service or more in the Queensland electricity industry and who have been employed at GPS since the Sale of the Station (31/3/94). This register is for employees whose anniversary falls during the months of August and September.

| | | | |
|----------|------------------|----------|------------------|
| 40 years | Kerry Moffit | 28 years | Kenneth Pengelly |
| 37 years | Russell Unwin | | Paul Adamson |
| 35 years | Russell Beard | 27 years | Lynda Casey |
| 33 years | Peter Rosak | | Archie Lowe |
| | Russell Watson | | Brian Clarke |
| 32 years | David Hoffmann | 26 years | Stephen Thefs |
| | Richard Thomason | | Leon Quinn |
| | Lindsay Prizeman | 22 years | Mitchell Brown |
| 31 years | Peter Adamson | 20 years | Troy Smith |
| | Darryl Bond | 19 years | John Allen |
| | George Bennetts | | Steven Lund |
| 30 years | Steven Mc Intyre | 16 years | Scott O'Connor |
| | Matthew Wegrzyn | 15 years | Tim Waugh |
| 29 years | Kevin Mc Neill | 10 years | Ian Rasby |
| | | | Rebecca Sparrow |



Ed says working at Gladstone Power Station was the best place he ever worked